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**From:** Wahlstrom-Ramler, Meghan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6E06B0D240D84CA59788C6C431758DE2-WAHLSTROM-R]  
**Sent:** 11/26/2019 8:43:04 PM  
**To:** R4NPDES.Kampachi@epa.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Offshore aquaculture

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-----Original Message-----

From: Christy Walton <christy@cunadelmar.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 6:15 PM  
To: Wahlstrom-Ramler, Meghan <Wahlstrom-Ramler.Meghan@epa.gov>  
Subject: Offshore aquaculture

Hello there, Meghan. I have invested in deep water, submersible cage systems in countries outside of the US. There are small mountains of science around the positive effects of farming offshore. (Small because very few have attempted this) No atrophic seafloor at all, a waste stream that is minimal and what there is, supports wild fish. Two even more important aspects are that the cage systems act as a "FAD" or "fish aggregating device". In the open ocean, species seek shade, shelter, something to attach to or hang around and cages offer that, so that the farm becomes a nursery, a nursery for the sea. And what else is special? Well, what caught my attention the first time I saw an offshore cage, was that a farm creates a, "no take" zone. A piece of the sea that you have a right to protect. While you have an economic base through farming a species, you also have a full time presence, so that you don't depend on a government to protect a no take zone, or a series of agencies that are often so underfunded that they are easily corrupted in order to support their families. With a farm, you can do many things at once. I don't understand why people keep saying, "no" to systems that can feed the world rather than saying, "how"... how do we feed people, and feed them with the best animal protein/least with the least FCR we know at this time? Governments should be investing in this, the sea is difficult, and we know so little, and take so much the way things are now. Not this system, not offshore...the most natural place the animal can be, and the healthiest place they can be.

Christy Walton,  
Co-founder  
Cuna Del Mar....Cradle of the Sea..

Sent from my iPad